
Program Letter
September, 1996

Abandon vs. Seldom Used Tanks

This program letter is a rewrite of an April 1989 Ind 8.225 code interpretation addressing how "abandon" UST systems are distinguished from those which are seldom used. The position presented in the original Ind 8 interpretation applies today under ILHR 10.

Tank systems are required to be inventoried and monitored for releases weekly and or monthly, depending upon the leak detection methodology implemented. Federally regulated UST systems which are not monitored as required will be considered to be abandon and subject to closure unless they are placed in a temporary out-of-service status in accordance with ILHR 10.73.

Other UST systems will be considered to be abandon, and therefore, subject to closure unless product transfers are made to and from the system periodically. For private motor vehicle fuel tanks, transfers must be made at least once in any ninety-day period. For heating fuel tanks, transfers must be made at least once in any six-month period. Heating fuel systems are those which are connected to oil-burning appliances. Inventory records, manifests or paid receipts for product received will be acceptable to the department as proof that transfers are being made.

Tank owners and operators may request approval from the department for a less frequent use if it justified as a part of the tank's purpose. Oil tanks being used primarily for emergency and/or back-up fuel and indicated as such on tank registration forms will automatically be waived from the *transfer* requirements.